

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 EB-11 COME-00

INT-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 JUSE-00 IO-13

RSR-01 /128 W

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O P 271234Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2140

INFO AMCONSUL AUCKLAND PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SUVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON PRIORITY

CINCPAC PRIORITY

COMDT COAST GUARD PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:PARM, PFOR, NZ, FR

SUBJECT: FRI

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

REF: STATE 147611

1. FOLLOWING RECEPTION REFTEL, DCM HAS CALLED ON QUAI
SECGEN DE COURCEL AND HAS OBTAINED APPOINTMENT WITH ARMED
FORCES MINISTRY DIPLOMATIC ADVISOR SEILLIERE FOR LATE AFTERNOON
JULY 27.

2. IN CALL ON DE COURCEL, DCM REVIEWED EMBASSY'S EFFORTS OVER
PAST WEEK TO ELICIT FROM QUAI A FULL REPORT OF CIRCUMSTANCES
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SURROUNDING FRENCH INTERDICTION ON HIGH SEAS OF FRI. DCM

EMPHASIZED NEED FOR FULL REPORT OF DETAILS OF WHAT HAPPENED -- E.G., TIME OF INTERDICTION, MANNER IN WHICH BOARDING OCCURRED, HOW BOAT WAS TOWED INTO MURUROA, INFORMATION ON ANY DEVELOPMENTS BEYOND NORMAL BOARDING PROCEDURES, ETC. WE EMPHASIZED INCREASING USG INTEREST IN OBTAINING DETAILED REPORT AND NOTED OUR INTENTION TO TAKE UP MATTER NOT ONLY IN QUAI BUT AT ARMED FORCES MINISTRY. WE ALSO REVIEWED DIFFICULTIES INVOLVED IN UNSUCCESSFUL EFFORT JULY 26 TO ARRANGE TELEPHONE CALL BETWEEN GORDON MOODIE IN DEPARTMENT AND HIS SON, DAVID, AT HAO. WE NOTED MR. MOODIE WILL AGAIN TRY TO CALL HIS SON TODAY AND ASKED FOR GOF HELP IN INSURING THAT CALL GOES THROUGH THIS TIME.

2. DE COURCEL ASSURED US THAT QUAI WISHES TO COOPERATE ON THIS MATTER AND HAS PROVIDED ALL FACTS AVAILABLE TO IT. HE NOTED EMBASSY HAD BEEN GIVEN "ESSENTIALS OF WHAT HAD HAPPENED -- THE FACT THAT FRI WAS TOWED OUT OF DANGER INTO MURUROA AND THAT CREW WAS INITIALLY TAKEN TO HAO, WHERE IT HAD BEEN "WELL CARED FOR." DE COURCEL SEEMED TO AGREE IT MIGHT BE USEFUL FOR US TO ATTEMPT TO ELICIT FURTHER INFORMATION FROM ARMED FORCES MINISTRY. HE SAID QUAI WOULD MAKE EFFORT TO FACILITATE JULY 27 TELEPHONE CALL FROM MR. MOODIE TO HIS SON. QUAI SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS OFFICER DE KERROS, WHO WAS PRESENT, SAID DEPARTMENT SHOULD ASK FOR "CIVIL HOSPITAL" IN MAKING CALL TO PAPEETE.

3. WE WILL ALSO ADVISE FOREIGN MINISTRY THAT USG MAY WELL WISH TO SEND CONSULAR OFFICER TO TAHITI TO MEET WITH MOODIE AND HIS COMPANIONS.

4. WILL REPORT RESULTS OF SEILLIERE CALL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

DECONTROL 12/31/74.
IRWIN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: thigpegh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PARIS20515
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973077/aaaaafcz.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 STATE 147611
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: thigpegh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23-Aug-2001 by smithrj>; APPROVED <23-Oct-2001 by thigpegh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRI CINCPAC FOR POLAD
TAGS: PARM, PFOR, NZ, FR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005